

**MINUTES
NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
January 7, 2004
3rd Floor, One Civic Center**

Present: Chairman John Shultz
Vice Chair Patty Badenoch
Commissioner Sue Alsworth
Commissioner John Horowitz
Commissioner George Knowlton
Commissioner Dick Kiesell

Absent: Commissioner Wendorf

Staff present: Raun Keagy, Joanie Mead, Larry Person

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Neighborhood Enhancement Commission was called to order at 5:05 pm and members were present as stated above.

APPROVAL OF 12/03/03 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Alsworth noted that on the very bottom paragraph the minutes refer to Vice Chair Badenoch as VICED Chair. She requested the spelling correction. No other discussion.

COMMISSIONER KIESELL MOVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE 12/03/03 MEETING BE APPROVED AS CORRECTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER KNOWLTON AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE COMMISSION ACTION ON THE UPCOMING ENVIROKIDSFEST '04 – MICHELLE COHEN, ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD

Larry Persons from the Environmental Office was present in place of Michelle Cohen to discuss the EnviroKidsFest '04.

In response to questions from Commissioners, Mr. Persons indicated that they have received responses from about a half a dozen schools, with 1200 students scheduled to attend the event. The city has committed \$10,000 to the event. The EnviroKidsFest '04 has a verbal commitment from SRP for \$5,000 and they are in negotiations with APS for a like amount. The money from the city operating budget has already been paid into this project and expended. The request for \$5,000 is for hard costs that are over and above what has already been expended by the city. The money from the commission would pay for rental of tents, tables and so forth at the event to display the art posters and environmental demonstration projects of the Scottsdale students who will be submitting projects.

Commissioner Kiesell indicated that he feels that the city has already supported this project to a substantial degree and that it is quite a stretch for the Neighborhood Enhancement Commission to support.

Mr. Keagy gave several examples, including a van for the Paiute Neighborhood Center and Block Watch Advisory Committee programs, in which operational funds are used in partnership with additional funds to make a project happen.

Commissioner Knowlton indicated that he would be interested in knowing how much money was remaining in the Commission's budget in order to help determine whether the Commission would be able to support EnviroKidsFest '04 and still have enough money for urgent neighborhood issues.

Mr. Keagy asked for clarification on how much money was spent for HOA's in the Fall. He was told that the group planned \$15,000 for the Fall and spent about \$8,800. Mr. Keagy noted that the group had not spent the Fall allocation of HOA's so there would be money as the group goes into Spring.

Commissioner Kiesell indicates that he feels it is a matter of priorities. The Neighborhood Enhancement Commission has priorities also and those priorities lie with helping the homeowners.

A MOTION IS MADE TO ALLOCATE THE FUNDS FOR THE ENVIROKIDSFEST '04. THE MOTION IS SECONDED AND PASSES. THE MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Person commented that while the funding is indirect, the supported group is really trying to get the word out on green building concepts that homeowners can use to renovate their home but make them more energy efficient. That is one of the primary messages that will be delivered at the event.

Commissioner Kiesell indicated that he appreciates the efforts greatly, but that it is not the business of this commission. He expresses concern about having a homeowner who needs funds that are not then available.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE COMMISSION ACTION ON A REQUEST FROM BUENAVANTE AND SAN CARLOS NEIGHBORHOODS I AND II.

Angela Ashley from the Buenavante Neighborhood is in attendance. Ms. Ashley explains that there is not a HOA in the neighborhoods that have applied for the enhancement funds. Private fundraising within the neighborhood paid for the permitted wall to be constructed and the city has helped with perimeter landscaping around the development. The part of the entrance for which the enhancement funds are to be used is on private property.

There is some discussion of \$2,000 in prior HOA money that is not recoverable as well as the level of crime in the neighborhood. There was an issue with car theft in the neighborhood. The block watched worked with police to solve the problem.

Joanie Mead added that Ms. Ashley has been very diligent in setting up a neighborhood watch within the subdivision that did not have an HOA. Staff in this department and other departments have worked with her over the past couple of years. She has 31 neighborhood watch captains in a subdivision with 380 homes. She has also worked hard to collect funds in the neighborhood and has been very successful.

Commissioner Kiesell commended Ms. Ashley for her efforts in putting the package together for the commission. He expressed that this type of project is appropriate to the commission.

COMMISSIONER KIESELL MOVED THAT THE COMMISSION AWARD THE \$1,764.60 FOR THIS REQUEST. THE MOTION IS SECONDED.

Commissioner Knowlton voiced concern regarding the maintenance of the enhancement area and indicated that he did not want to fund an enhancement that could not be maintained.

Ms. Ashley said that 74th Place does have drip system water going to those plants at the entrance. The plantings at that entrance will have drips. The other three areas have the ability to have water, but the water is not turned on at those drips. The planting that will be done will require very little, if any, water.

Ms. Ashley discussed the Dusk To Dawn program and reported that her community, which has dark entrances off Cactus Road, is unable to participate in the program because they do not have a formal HOA. An HOA is necessary because the organization needs to sign a 4-year contract with APS in order to have the lighting installed.

Commissioner Alsworth mentioned that she had visited the neighborhood's website. She felt that because this is the second year of the GAIN event, it would be nice to have the best neighborhoods and have them come and do a booth to mentor the other neighborhoods. She also mentioned a co-op website for neighborhoods that are not HOA's and do not have a website.

Ms. Ashley asked for an opinion in regard to the website. She approached Realty Execs for contributions to enhancements since they sell so many homes in the neighborhood. They have donated \$500 toward the project. She is running the website and has received negative response from other community members who are realtors.

THE MOTION INDICATED ABOVE IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

UPDATE ON RESIDENTIAL REDEVELOPMENT MEETING

Ms. Mead distributed information about the Residential Redevelopment group to the members of the commission. This group has been formed informally to look into residential revitalization efforts. The materials included the minutes from two or three meetings as well as information and handouts.

The group is comprised of interested citizens, including some who are running for council in the upcoming election. The LINKS organization is serving as the facilitator to this effort. Several people from the current Scottsdale Leadership class are participating as well. The group approached LINKS because the LINKS organization is in the business of bringing together diverse interests and helping them come up with a common goal. That is when the city staff heard about the effort and decided they needed to get involved. City staff, to include Judy Register, Molly Edwards and Ms. Mead, have attended the meetings. City staff is at the meeting to provide information regarding similar city projects.

Meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month in this month. Some of the meeting will be held in the (press box b%). Commission members are welcome to attend any and all of them if interested.

Ms. Mead discussed the December 17, 2003 meeting. At this meeting, the individual small groups (Strategic Planning, Marketing and Funding, and Signature Project Team) came back to report to the larger group about what they had accomplished at their small group meetings.

Ms. Mead showed a list of ideas that were brainstormed at a meeting. The group is in the talking stages right now. They are looking at specific neighborhoods to try to identify areas that may need assistance of some sort. One of their findings was that 99% of Scottsdale neighborhoods are in excellent shape. They are also looking to identify programs for the group to get involved in and spoke about doing some streetscape projects adjacent to some of the more major thoroughfares, perhaps along Scottsdale or Hayden Road.

Commissioners voiced concern about the perception that these meetings might be construed as city sponsored. One mentioned that he thinks there should be a disclaimer at the top of their information that this is not a City of Scottsdale program.

Commissioner Badenoch indicated that she would like to attend the meetings.

ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2004. NOMINATIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM THE FLOOR.

At the request of a commissioner, staff reviewed the commissioners' terms and whether or not they are eligible to serve another term on the commission.

Mr. Keagy opened the floor for nominations for Chairman.

Commissioner Wendorf nominated Chairman Shultz for another term as Chairman. His nomination was affirmed.

Commissioner Schultz opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair.

Commissioner Horowitz is nominated as Vice Chairman, but he declined the nomination.

Commissioner Kiesel and Commissioner Badenoch were nominated for Vice Chair. Commissioner Badenoch was elected Vice Chair.

STAFF AND COMMISSION UPDATES

Staff indicated that they have no further information on the project other than what was mentioned in the paper.

Commissioner Wendorf called for the need to begin planning for their campaign for financial endurance. She suggested that the commission, along with the department, needs to present a case for a stronger budget. She would like to see this item on the agenda for upcoming meetings.

Staff explains the budget process. Operating budgets are being prepared at this time. Issues like funding for this commission should be before the City Manager in the April – May time frame.

Commissioner Badenoch requested that staff go back and look at some groups that will likely return to the commission for money based on the type of projects that were funded for those groups two or three years ago. That information can be used to let the City Manager/Council know that these groups will again be looking for funding. If the commission shows that there will be future growth, annually funded groups and some repeat groups that fall within the guidelines, they can justify a request for a larger budget allocation. In addition, this should indicate that there are groups the commission feels it should target for strategic partnership.

Commissioner Alsworth asked if the application process will be coming out in the paper. Ms. Mead informed the commission that two class dates are scheduled for March 2nd and March 4th for the Neighborhood College program. May 7th is the deadline for the Spring applications for HOAs.

Some discussion about possibility of funding the lights and electrical costs for the Buenavante development. The problem is noted as being that a commitment needs to be made to pay for the cost of operating the lights for a period of four years. This commitment is normally made by a HOA, but there is not an HOA in that subdivision and repeated efforts to start one have not been successful.

Commissioner Badenoch mentioned that last night there was a mention of a review of the RV ordinance. Staff informed the commission that it is unclear as to whether there was to be a review of the ordinance one year from the date it was passed or one year from when the City started enforcing the ordinance.

Commissioner Kiesel mentioned a property that is the fourth lot east of 82nd Street on the north side of Indian School Road. He indicated that there are cranes on a dirt lot on this property. Commissioner noted that the property looks like a storage yard for someone in a sewer business.

Staff informed commission that there are three businesses along that area that look like they are non-conforming but are legal because they were grandfathered.

Commissioner Kiesell asked if they are allowed not to comply with any of the rules such as parking on dirt. Staff explained that if they have non-conforming status for that type of business, then they don't have to. The non-conforming status will remain in effect as long as that type of business is operated at that address.

Tape ends before adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Conway
Minutes Recorder